Social Security Administration Supplemental Security Income Important Information

Social Security Administration PO Box 17705 Baltimore MD 21235-7705

[Date] BNC#

Name Address Address

We are writing to tell you about services and supports available to help you and your child as they prepare to become an adult. This letter also explains how your child's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) could change when they turn age 18.

Moving into adulthood is a change often called a transition. You and your child may be talking to teachers, counselors, and service providers about this transition. These discussions may involve ending child services and applying for adult services. They may also involve thinking about what your child will do after high school. Social Security and other federal and state agencies have services available as you and your child make plans about higher education, training, and employment. There are many services available in the areas of health, education, finance, and employment.

As you and your child prepare for this transition, it is important to know that your child's SSI eligibility may change when they turn age 18. We are required to review all childhood SSI cases when a child turns age 18 to see if they meet the adult rules for disability, including non-medical eligibility rules. We call this review the age-18 redetermination. During this review, we will ask for updated information and records about your child's medications, hospitalizations, education, and appointments with doctors and therapists. In the past, almost one third of children do not continue to receive SSI because of these reviews.

How Their Payments May Continue If We Find They Are Not Disabled

If we find that your child does not have a disability under our rules for adults, their SSI payments will usually stop. However, their payments may continue while they are:

- Attending school under an Individualized Education Program (IEP), or
- Taking part in certain vocational rehabilitation or similar programs.

To qualify, your child must be participating in the program before the month their disability ends under our rules. SSI payments could continue until they finish school or complete the program. Be sure to tell us about any program your child takes part in when you contact us to give us the information we need. We may ask for more information later. You must also tell us when your child finishes school or completes the program. If your child receives too much SSI money because you did not tell us right away, they must pay back the money.

Information To Help Your Child Transition To Adulthood

To make it easier for you to prepare for your child's transition into adulthood, please review our publication with your child: <u>https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11005.pdf</u>. Important information about the upcoming review is in this publication.

The publication explains:

- How to appeal or continue receiving payments if eligibility stops because of an age-18 redetermination.
- How earnings affect the age-18 redetermination.
- Changes to income considerations after your child turns 18.
- Work incentives available to your child.
- SSI program rules about higher education funds.
- Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts.
- Other services you and your child may find helpful.

You can access the publication online. Please visit the Youth Toolkit online at *www.ssa.gov/youth* or scan the QR code.



We value your opinion. Please go to <u>www.ssa.gov/feedback/SSITurning18 to</u> share your thoughts.

If you would like a paper copy of this publication or SSI Turning 18 survey, please call us using the number listed under "Need more help."

Need more help?

- 1. Visit <u>www.ssa.gov</u> for fast, simple, and secure online service.
- 2. Call us at **1-800-772-1213**, weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call TTY **1-800-325-0778**. Please mention this letter when you call.

3. Contact our Ticket to Work Help Line to learn more about Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) and Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) services. Call 1-866-968-7842 (TTY 1-866-833-2967) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time. You can also find information on WIPA and PABSS projects at <u>www.choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp/</u> online.

How are we doing? Go to www.ssa.gov/feedback to let us know.

Suspect Social Security Fraud?

If you suspect Social Security fraud, please visit <u>https://oig.ssa.gov/report</u> or call the Inspector General's Fraud Hotline at **1-800-269-0271** (TTY **1-866-501-2101**).

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